



Regulatory Update



Part of



SAFE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

FROM UV INKS TO FOOD CONTACT SAFETY: THE EuPIA UPDATE 2026 Regulatory & Technical Guidance for Printing Inks

In January 2026, **EuPIA** (European Printing Ink Association) published the **updated** Suitability List of Photoinitiators and Photosynergists for use in UV inks and varnishes applied on the non-food-contact side of food packaging materials.

This update provides clear **criteria for compliance**, supporting converters, ink manufacturers, and brand owners in meeting food safety regulations.

WHAT'S NEW?

This document, the result of the work of EUPIA members, although not exhaustive and voluntary, provides an interpretative framework for the use of Photoinitiators and Photosynergists, based on two criteria.



Therefore, it is possible to use some that have an **equivalent profile** to those for which toxicity data have already been submitted or, for those not yet evaluated and not listed, a case-by-case evaluation is carried out, based on the application and packaging structure.

For the complete list of photoinitiators and photosynergists, please refer to the EUPIA document:

https://www.eupia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/EuPIA-Suitability-List-2026_update.pdf

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL UNDER CRITERION 2

Food Contact Services (FCS) and **Food Contact Center (FCC)** support companies in ensuring safe use of photoinitiators through three key approaches:

1. Photoinitiators with proven absence of CMR properties and migration below 10 ppb, confirmed by repeated testing.
2. Photoinitiators with no migration potential due to molecular weight >1000 Daltons.
3. Applications with an effective migration barrier (e.g., external glass or metal).

For cases (1) and (2), companies must demonstrate safety to customers and authorities based on a full assessment of impurities and photolysis products, following EuPIA NIAS Guidance. FCS and FCC can assist in testing, documentation, and compliance.



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